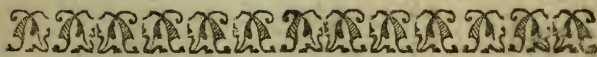


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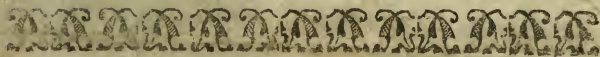
T H E

Fatal Consequences

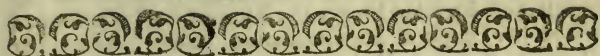
O F

Political Adultery

DISPLAY'D.



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T H E

Fatal Consequences

O F

Political Adultery

DISPLAY'D.



Cannot look upon the Coronation Oath in any other Light than as a Marriage Vow made by the Spouse of the People ; and tho' Adultery is not expressly guarded against by it, yet it has ever been thought very good Grounds to sue for a Divorce. — In this Sense I consider the Reigns of our Monarchs as so many political Marriages ; some of which have been full of too well grounded Jealousies on the Side of the Wife, and after being fill'd with domestic Confusion, have ended in absolute Separation. — In common Life, especially amongst People of Fashion, the Mistress before Marriage is generally discarded by an express Stipulation ; and even a Visit to her would be thought a good Plea for insisting upon a separate Aliment. —

The great Queen *Elizabeth* pursued this Metaphor so literally, and was so faithful to her Marriage Vow, that she never pull'd off from her Finger the Ring with which she had wedded her People at her Coronation; and it was actually fil'd off, by her own Order, a little before she dy'd. *My Throne has been the Throne of Kings*, said she, in the Agonies of Death; as if dreading, lest *Old England* might, some Time or other, match against her Interest, and below her Dignity.

William the Conqueror, tho' himself the Son of a W——, was compell'd to treat his People as his Wife. His foreign Dominions were so far from being improv'd, that they fell into Decay by his new Acquisition of the Crown of *England*. Nay what will not, perhaps be believed at this time; our Forefathers were so jealous of suffering their Kings to hold any foreign Dominions, tho' born to them, with as good a Title as any *German* Prince is to his E——te, that they suspended the Exercise of the Royal Authority in those Dominions; which Suspension our Kings would never have suffered, had they not thought, that the People would not suffer **THEIR** King to rule over any People independent of *Old England*; as if considering *their* King as their Servant; and that if this Servant had Servants of his own, he would filch from his Masters to supply those Servants, so that in time he might become Master himself. Nay, we find the (a) Parliaments of *Old England* determining Cases of Property and all other Matters within their Kings foreign Dominions; and the wisest, the most powerful, as well as the weakest and most violent of our Kings, glad to comply: (b) And we find upon the Rolls of our Parliament, that Committees here have been appointed to examine Petitions in their Assemblies of *Parliament*.

It was not without Jealousy and Heart-burnings that *Old England* saw *Edward* the III^d. one of her most belov'd Husbands, assume the glorious Title of *King of France*; she could not bear the Thoughts of even the Shew of dividing his Affections——The King saw the Storm rising, and knew that it was of the most dangerous Kind, because brewed in the *Hearts of the People*. But he was far from defending or justifying what he had done *without their Consent*, and against their

(a) *Rolls of P.* 33 *Ed.* I.

(b) 14 *Ed.* II. & *alibi*.

their Inclinations, that he call'd a Parliament to account to it for his Conduct; — (a) *to satisfy his People it should not be a Prejudice to the English Nation, but greatly to its Advantage and Honour*; declaring at the same Time, *that every Thing should be ordered according to the Advice and Approbation of his People.* —

One of the most glorious and successful Acts of Opposition we find in all the *English* History, was occasioned by the Partiality shewn by Henry the III. in favour of his foreign Dominions. This Prince, who, in his Heart, was no *Englishman*, chose and rejected his Ministers, in Proportion as they gratify'd or discouraged his foreign Affections. It was thought impossible to find out a Crime against the *English* Constitution, which *Hubert de Burgh*, who had been long his first Minister, had not been guilty of; but *Peter of Winchester*, a Man of a haughty, insolent, enterprizing Turn, soon convinced the World of the contrary. He caught the King by *his ruling Passion*; he bade up to a Price which even his former Minister, wicked as he was, had not the Wickedness to venture at: In short he threw up the Reins to his Master's foreign Affections, till they at last carried him over the most dangerous Precipices, and overturn'd the Chariot of Government.

The Friends of *Old England* law her made a Province to a petty, foreign Territory; this begot at first Concern, then Indignation, and they endeavoured to have Measures altered by the dutiful Application of Petitions and Addresses: but the Minister roughly answered, (b) *That the King might employ his Foreign, or any other Subjects he pleased, to curb the Insolence of the English Party at home.*

This Declaration, which the Violence of the Minister's Tem-

(a) *Scientes in super, quod nolumus, nec intentionis nostre existit, quod ex assumptione nominis & honoris eorundem prejudicatur aut alqualiter derogetur, sed quod idem Regno uberius subveniat, aut relevetur maturius, illud idem & pro securitate in hac parte, ad dictum Parliamentum, si opus fuerit, ordinabimus, quod juxta Consilium vestram ceterorumque Convocatorum viderimus opportunum.* (14 Ed. III. p. 1. m. 3. Dier. 94.

(b) *That Prince* (meaning Charles the I.) *had no Revenues, and he had no Army, the present Prince has both; — and he undoubtedly would and could exert them in his own just Defence.* (Faction detected, p. 67.)

Temper had extorted from him, alarmed the *English* Party so much, that they refused to submit even to the Judgment of Parliament, fearing how far a foreign Interest might influence its Resolutions. Accordingly they drew up an Association to stand by one another like Men, (c) in a Cause (to use their own excellent Expression) which touch'd them even to the Separation of Soul and Body. They persisted so resolutely in this Argument, that they rejected three Summonses to Parliament, declaring, *That unless the King would dismiss his evil Counsellors, they would not only refuse to meet in Parliament,* (d) *but drive the King himself, with his wicked Ministers, from the Common Council of the Kingdom, and treat about the Creation of a new King.* At last, with great Difficulty, they came to Parliament, but attended with a Power, which put them above all Dread of the Ministerial Resentment, and an Address was drawn up in the Name of the whole House, to be presented to the King as their Judgment; some Extracts out of which I beg Leave to lay before the Public; the rather because no Address ever breath'd more true *Old English* Spirit; and for that Reason perhaps has been omitted by *Rapin*, and our other modern Historians.

(e) "Sir, we cannot, from the Duty we owe to you and our Country, avoid acquainting you that the Counsils of your Ministry, which you follow, are neither *sound* nor *safe*, but oppressive and dangerous, both to yourself and the People of *England*."

(f) "In the first Place, they both hate and despise the *English*

(c) *Que omnes tangebant usque ad divisionem corporis, & animæ, viriliter decertarent.*

(d) *Sed de Communi Consilio totius Regni, ipsum cum Iniquis suis consiliariis a regno depellerent, & de novo Rege creando contractarent.*

(e) *Domine Rex docimus vobis in domino, ut fideles vestri, quod consilium quodnum habetis & quo utimini non est sanum nec securum, sed crudele & periculosum vobis & regno Angliæ.*

(f) *Imprimis, Quia gentem Anglicanam odio habent, & contemnunt, vocantes eos Proditores & facientes omnes sic vocari, avertentes animum vestrum ab amore gentis vestræ & corda nostra & gentis nostræ a vobis, quod apparet in M—— qui melior Homo est terra vestra, quem permendatia interseminata a vobis elongantes perverterunt.*

English Nation, calling them disaffected, and branding them all with that Denomination, thereby estranging your Mind from the Love of your People, and our Hearts, and those of all true Englishmen from you, as appears in the Case of your (c) Marshal, one of the best of all your Subjects, whom they have ly'd out of your Favour, and driven from your Person."

They then proceed to remonstrate, (d) That by the same Counsils this Kingdom has been brought into a State of Subjection and Tribute, by unnecessarily protracted Wars. (e) That the same Counsils have squandered the Nation's Money, and lost her a great many brave Men. (f) That they were not Counsils of Peace, but of War and Confusion. (g) That true *Englishmen* would have advised him otherwise, and have prevented all the Expence he had been at, to the great Empoverishment of his Kingdom and Revenues. (h) That the same Minister had ingross'd the Kings Arms and Courage, as if he ought not to trust his *English* Subjects. (i) That in like Manner they had ingross'd his Exchequer and Revenues, as he would experience to his Cost. (k) That they excluded his *English* Subjects from Court; a Conduct which put them under the most dreadful Apprehensions with Regard both to his

(c) *Whether he was Field Marshal or not is not said.*

(d) *Factum est Regnum tributarium, & inita Guerra & diu protractu.*

(e) *Per idem consilium multum Thesaurum in diversis Bellis & strenuos homines peramissi.*

(f) *Perturbatio nunc imminens toti Regno periculosa, per eorum consilium iniquum accidenti, quia si per justitiam & rectum judicium terra tractati fuissent, homines vestri non evenissent esta perturbatio, & haberetis terras vestras non destructas nec thesaurum exbaustum.*

(g) *Concilium vestrum non est pacis, sed perturbationis terra.*

(h) *Castra vestra, & fortitudinem vestram habent in manus sua, quasi de gente vestra confidere debeatis.*

(i) *Saccarium vestrum & omnes redditus vestras, & escheatas habent in sua potestate*

(k) *Per idem Consilium naturales homines de Regno vestro, de curia vestra, expulsi sunt.*

his Crown and Person. (a) That they disregarded both their Vows and Promises. They then conclude as follows.

(b) Thus far we declare; and we advise, beseech and warn you, before God and Man, to remove such Counsellours from about your Person, and, as is the Custom in other Countries, employ loyal Natives and true-hearted *Englishmen*, or, in other Words, *put Things upon a Broad Bottom.*"

The Historian tells us, that upon this Address, the King (c) humbly begged for a Truce, till such Time as the Ministers complained of, could make up their Accounts.

In the next Meeting of Parliament, the King dismissed those wicked Ministers, and recalled about his Person *English Ministers with English Hearts*, by whom he was in hopes he should be able to bring Matters to the true old *English* System.

Now to apply, as *Mat. Prior* says, is the Difficulty; for I can't, for my Life, find any Case to which the Instances from *English* History, given in this, are now applicable: Therefore, if my Reader can't find this out for me, I must submit to be thought an incorrigible Blockhead: However, it must be allowed, that, Applicable, or not Applicable, it is proper to let *Englishmen* know, there was a Time, when their Ancestors would have sent any **** a Grazing, who should have attempted to render *Old England* a Province to the greatest Kingdom in the World, but more especially, to a Corner of his own, kept above the State of Beggary only by *English* Money.

(a) *Non Servant alicui fidem vel juramentum.*

(b) *Hæc autem vobis dicimus, & coram deo hominibus consulimus, rogamus & monemus, ut tale Consilium amoveatis a vobis, & sicut est in aliis regnis consuetudo, regnum vestrum tractetis per fideles homines vestros, & juratos de regno vestro.*

(c) *Rex humiliter postulavit inducias.* *Mat. Paris*, 381, 382, 383. in *Temp. Hen. III.*